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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/893,112 | 06/27/2001 | Philip M. Walker | 10005039-1 | 4872 |

7590 03/21/2006

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Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

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| EXAMINER |
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DOAN, DUYEN MY

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2143

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/893,112 | WALKER ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Duyen M. Doan | 2143 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 June 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-18 are previously presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hsieh et al (us 2002/0158900) (hereinafter Hsieh).

As regarding claims 1,7 and 12 Hsieh discloses providing a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator with which client connectivity with the resource on the local network can be enabled, the GUI being configured such that the process used by the operator to facilitate connectivity using the GUI is the same regardless of a configuration of the remote client network (see Hsieh pg.2, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62, using GUI to provide information about various VLANs, also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select

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customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done); receiving commands of the operator with the GUI that convey the identity of the client and the resource to be accessed by the client (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62 ,also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done); automatically determining the client network configuration(see Hsieh pg.2, par 12-13; pg.3 par 28, automated provisioning); and automatically establishing client connectivity to the resource so as to provide the client on the remote client network access to the resource on the local network(see Hsieh pg.3, par 28; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62 ,automated provisioning, also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done).

As regarding claim 2, 8 and 13, Hsieh discloses wherein the GUI comprises lists of clients and available resources (see Hsieh pg.7, par 57-58, allocate additional IP address (resource), for new devices (clients) to be connected to VLAN).

As regarding claims 3,9, and 14, Hsieh discloses wherein receiving commands comprises first receiving selection of a client for which connectivity is to be provided (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62).

As regarding claims 4,10 and 15, Hsieh discloses wherein receiving command further comprises detecting association of a resource with a client VLAN (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62).

As regarding claims 6,11 and 16, Hsieh discloses wherein determining the client network configuration comprises accessing a connectivity database that stores the client network configuration (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5,17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsieh et al (us 2002/0158900) (hereinafter Hsieh) in view of McNally et al (us 6,659,448) (hereinafter McNally).

As regarding claim 5, Hsieh discloses limitation of claims 1 and 4 above, but Hsieh does not discloses wherein association of a resource with a client VLAN is communicated with the GUI by dragging the resource and dropping it on the client VLAN.

McNally teaches the user of drag and drop protocol on a computer GUI if a management computer to instantiate resource mapping rule (see McNally col.2, lines 1-40, also see figure 8).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of McNally to the method of Hsieh to drag

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the resource and dropping it on the client because by dragging the resource and dropping it on the client would reduce the work, minimum number of actions required by the administrator (see McNally col.2, 1-40).

As regarding claim 17, Hsieh discloses first window that is used to create new virtual local area networks (VLANs) and that identifies VLANs that have already been created (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62); and a second window that identifies resources that are available for use by clients (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62, using GUI to provide information about various VLANs, also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done); wherein new VLANs can be created (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62, using GUI to provide information about various VLANs, also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done).

Hsieh does not disclose dragging a resource from the second window to a client identified in the first window and dropping the resource on the identifies client.

McNally teaches the user of drag and drop protocol on a computer GUI if a management computer to instantiate resource mapping rule (see McNally col.2, lines 1-40, also see figure 8).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of McNally to the method of Hsieh to drag the resource and dropping it on the client because by dragging the resource and

dropping it on the client would reduce the work, minimum number of actions required by the administrator (see McNally col.2, 1-40).

As regarding claim 18, Hsieh-McNally discloses wherein the first window includes a VLANs subwindow that identifies clients and a resource subwindow that identifies resources associated with the clients identified in the VLANs subwindow (see Hsieh pg.3, par 12-13; pg.6, par 50-52; pg.7, par 53-54, par 56-59; pg.8, par 60-62, using GUI to provide information about various VLANs, also see figure 10a, 11b, select compartment resource, and select customer, click assign, the process will automatically be done).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see Remark, filed 12/22/05 with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-17 under 103 (a) Hansen (us apt 5819042) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Hsieh (us 2002/0158900) and McNally (us 6,659,448).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M. Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner
Duyen Doan
Art unit 2143


DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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